

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant(s):</b>	Akira Suyama, et al.	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	Unassigned	<b>Art Unit:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Filed:</b>	Herewith	<b>Docket:</b>	14683Z
<b>For:</b>	METHOD OF DETECTING NUCLEIC ACID	<b>Dated:</b>	November 13, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, kindly enter the following preliminary amendment.

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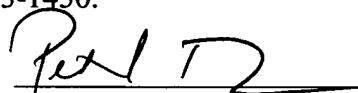
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Dated: November 13, 2003

  
Peter I. Bernstein